

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.	:	09/526,622	Confirmation No. 1965
Applicant	:	Harry R. LEWIS et al.	
Filed	:	March 16, 2000	
TC/A.U.	:	2131	
Examiner	:	Arezo SHERKAT	
Docket No.	:	BLD9-1999-0018-US1	
Customer No.	:	23334	

37 C.F.R. § 1.131 DECLARATION

We, the undersigned, are the Applicants for the above-identified patent application and hereby declare the following:

- (1) Claims 1-10, 15-18, and 20-23 of the above-identified patent application were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on U.S. Publication No. 2002/0019852 to Bahar, which is entitled "Method and System for Confirming Proper Receipt of E-Mail Transmitted Via a Communications Network" and has a priority date of December 15, 1999 ("Bahar").
- (2) Claims 11, 12, 14 and 19 of the above-identified patent application were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Bahar.
- (3) The invention claims in the above-identified patent application were reduced to writing in the United States prior to the December 15, 1999 date of the Bahar reference. Attached hereto is the relevant portion of an Invention Disclosure on which the above-identified patent application was based. This Invention Disclosure was prepared prior to December 15, 1999.

We, the undersigned, hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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09/526,622

Remote notification of Print or FAX hardcopy recipient using universal, standard VCARD identification

	Disclosure BLD8-1999-0009
	Created By: Harry Lewis Created On:
	Last Modified By: Alma Silva Last Modified On:
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Required fields are marked with the asterisk (*) and must be filled in to complete the form.

Summary

Status	Search Results Received
Processing Location	BLD
Functional Area	Software Development (Mark Thomas)-Boulder
Attorney/Patent Professional	Monica Lee/San Jose/IBM
IDT Team	Reinhard Hohensee/Boulder/IBM; DR Palmer/Boulder/IBM
Submitted Date	
Owning Division	PSC
PVT Score	16

Inventors with Lotus Notes ID's

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Inventors without Lotus Notes ID's

IDT Selection

Main Idea

*Title of disclosure (In English)

Remote notification of Print or FAX hardcopy recipient using universal, standard VCARD identification

*Idea of disclosure

1. Describe your invention, stating the problem solved (if appropriate), and indicating the advantages of using the invention.

This invention associates a universal, standard form of identification (VCARD - see <http://www.cnet.com/Resources/Info/Glossary/Terms/vcard.html>) with a Print or FAX job such that 1)VCARD identification is required for hardcopy to be produced; 2)The Print or FAX originator receives a response to successful hardcopy production which includes the VCARD identity of the recipient. Print or FAX jobs can be submitted with instructions that require either a *specific* VCARD or *any* VCARD to be presented before hardcopy will be produced. This invention also provides a method for further (optionally) associating time and device location to the VCARD ID response message.

This invention combines production (or retrieval, in a locked bin or "mailbox" implementation) of the hardcopy document with standard (VCARD) identification and makes use of modern bi-directional print communications protocols (ex. IPP, IFAX, IFAX over IPP or the Intelligent Printer Data Stream) or store-and-forward methods such as e-mail to provide positive identification of hardcopy recipient in a response to the originator or designated 3rd party(s). Personal identification, in standard (VCARD) format, is entered electronically via Smart Card, JAVA ring, RFID tag or other form of portable media, at the hardcopy

Remote notification of Print or FAX hardcopy recipient using universal, standard VCARD identification

device, allowing access to (in a locked bin implementation) or causing production of the hardcopy output. This action associates VCARD information with the receipt of a Print or FAX document. VCARD information is then appended to a response which is sent to the print or FAX originator (or specified third party) if such confirmation has been requested.

2. How does the invention solve the problem or achieve an advantage, (a description of "the invention", including figures inline as appropriate)?

The hardcopy recipient is required to provide standard VCARD identification, either via swiping a smart card, presenting a JAVA button or another form of electronic entry in order for the hardcopy to be produced. Print and FAX submissions can be targeted either to a specific individual or any individual presenting VCARD ID. The invention couples recipient identity in standard VCARD format with production or retrieval of the printed document and provides this information in a job completion response.

3. If the same advantage or problem has been identified by others (inside/outside IBM), how have those others solved it and does your solution differ and why is it better?

Other implementations have tied production of Print or FAX hardcopy to the presence of identification at the device. However, these methods work on the principal of a (secret) "password" generated during submission and rely on the recipient's knowledge of that password. In these systems, the password must be exchanged between originator and recipient (unless they are the same person). Also, the identity of the recipient is inferred by successful creation of the document. If the password is shared with a 3rd party, assumptions about the actual recipient may not be correct. This invention does not require a secret password to be exchanged between originator and recipient. Also, this invention provides positive identification based on the VCARD used to produce the document (it could be argued that lending a VCARD is analogous to sharing your password) rather than relying on the assumption that, if the document is produced, it must have been received by the intended recipient.

Other implementations may indicate success or failure of a Print or FAX job. Specifically, US5127047 describes a method for returning predetermined status messages back to the FAX originator or interested 3rd party via telephone. Even though this method describes enhanced formats such as audio for verbal messages, the actual identity of the recipient is not part of the message information. We know of no other existing system that associates universal, standard recipient identification with production of the Print or FAX hardcopy.

4. If the invention is implemented in a product or prototype, include technical details, purpose, disclosure details to others and the date of that implementation.

***Critical Questions (Questions 1 - 7 must be answered)**

Patent Value Tool (Optional - this may be used by the Inventor and attorney to assist with the evaluation)

Search Information

Post Disclosure Text & Drawings
